

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS (QUIPS)
COMMUNITY SCHOOL ALLIANCES (CSA) PROJECT
QUARTERLY REPORT

1 April 2003 to 30 June 2003

USAID Cooperative Agreement No. 641-CA-00-97-00160-00

Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC)
Educational Assessment and Research Centre (EARC)

INTRODUCTION

This quarterly report covers the period from 1 April 2003 to 30 June 2003 under USAID Cooperative Agreement No. 641-CA-00-97-00160-00. The report summarizes major accomplishments by the CSA project in Ghana during this period, plans for next period, and a summary of expenditures for the period. Briefly, the sub-activities of the CSA project are: 1) increased community awareness, responsibility, and advocacy for education; 2) strengthened school support organizations in each community; 3) communities participating in the design, implementation and monitoring of schools; and 4) district education officers using monitoring and evaluation to improve education management.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The following major accomplishments were completed during this quarter.

Remobilisation – Cohort 5. Three-day phase-out remobilization exercises were conducted in 32 Cohort 5 communities. Story-picture cards and other PLA tools were used with different focus groups in the community to generate discussions around education and how community members could contribute to improving quality. On the last day of the activity, communities updated their SPIPs, integrating issues that had arisen during the previous days. The CPC in each district participated in the activity to increase capacity in community mobilization at the district level. The remaining Cohort 5 communities will receive remobilisation next quarter.

SMC/PTA Training Expansion. The SMC/PTA training expansion program was active in 16 districts during the quarter, of which 1 Cohort 3 (South Tongu), and 9 Cohort 5 districts (Juaboso Bia, Kwaebibirem, Techiman, Offinso, Sefwi Wiawso, Sekyere West, Agona, and Ejura Sekyedumase) were completed. A total of 1,052 schools in these 10 districts participated in the program and 9,695 SMC/PTA executives attended 4-day cluster workshops. This brings the total number of districts completed to 35, including 1 Cohort 2 district, 2 Cohort 3 districts, all 18 Cohort 4 districts, and 14 Cohort 5 districts. Including those districts that are currently active, a total of 35,727 SMC/PTA executives from 4,041 schools have been trained.

SMC/PTA Handbook. A total of 3,274 SMC/PTA handbooks were distributed during the quarter in 1 Cohort 2, 3 Cohort 3, and 12 Cohort 5 districts as part of the SMC/PTA expansion program. To date, 28,057 of the 80,000 handbooks have been distributed as follows: 2,000 to GES headquarters, 9,500 to CRS, and 16,557 to district trainers and SMC/PTAs in 2 Cohort 2 districts, 4 Cohort 3 districts, all 18 Cohort 4 districts, and 17 Cohort 5 districts that have participated in the SMC/PTA training expansion program. The remaining manuals are currently being stored at the CSA Accra and Kumasi offices.

District SMCs. In an effort to increase the sustainability potential of CSA's community mobilization strategies, a new component was introduced to the SMC/PTA Expansion program where three districts, Sekyere West, Offinso, and South Tongu, were assisted to form district SMC committees. The committees were formed by taking two nominees from each cluster training activity, bringing the nominees together after all clusters had been completed, and assisting them to elect a district body consisting of ten members.

Participants were very enthusiastic about the program and CSA plans to incorporate it into future SMC/PTA expansion districts.

District Education Fora. Two 2-day district education fora were conducted in collaboration with CLUSA in the Ga and Afigya Sekyere districts during the quarter. During the activity, stakeholders from the QUIPS PSCs, the district education officers, and the CLUSA sponsored civic unions were brought together to conduct a public forum and develop a strategic educational development plan for the district.

District Management Training/District Grants. During the quarter, CSA collaborated with ILP in the delivery of 3-day tranche 1 review workshops for all 18 Cohort 3 districts and 3-day tranche 2 review workshops for all 15 Cohort 1&2 districts. The DMIT members from the districts were assisted in the preparation and refinement of their district grant applications, including indicators, activities, and budget allocations. Seven-day PLA training was provided to all 18 Cohort 3 districts by CSA to assist the DEO staff with implementing their tranche 1 workplans. Also during this quarter, CSA provided 1-day district grant support visits to all 15 Cohort 1&2 and 4 Cohort 5 districts to monitor the implementation of their district grant workplans and to provide support when districts had encountered difficulties.

M&E Capacity Building Program. The M&E program is now active in 69 districts in the south (Cohorts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) and 19 districts in the north (Cohorts 3, 4, and 5). During the quarter, 18 2-day district assessment visits (Cohort 3 south districts) and 95 2-day on-site training visits were conducted, including at least one visit to all active districts except for 7 in Cohort 1&2 (Adansi East, Atwima, Ahafo Ano North, East Akim, West Akim, Abora Asebu, and Ahanta West). The on-site visits provide the districts with an opportunity to receive training specific to their own M&E plans and allow the CSA training team to track progress. Six-day cluster training 2 workshops, which focused on data analysis and information dissemination, were conducted to cover the remaining 4 Cohort 5 districts in the south and five-day cluster training 1 workshops, which focused on indicator refinement and M&E plan development, were conducted to cover all 18 Cohort 3 districts in the south. Five-day technical training 2 workshops, which focused on building computer and data analysis skills, were conducted to cover all 6 Cohort 3 districts in the north and all 23 Cohort 5 districts (north and south). Nine computer systems were distributed to 1 Cohort 1&2 (Assin), 7 Cohort 3 south (Akuapim North, Hohoe, South Tongu, Berekum, Dangme East, BAK, and KEEA), and 1 Cohort 4 south (Ga), bringing the total number of computers distributed to 65. Two Cohort 3 north (Gushiegu/Karaga and Bawku East) and 3 Cohort 3 south (Wassa West, Suhum Kraboa Coaltar, and Kpando) have not yet received computer systems because they have not met the requirements for distribution.

Microgrant – Cohorts 4, 5, and 6. Seventeen of the remaining 21 Cohort 4 microgrant tranche 3 projects were verified as completed during the quarter, leaving four remaining to be completed. The four remaining Cohort 5 tranche 2 and 42 tranche 3 microgrant projects were verified, leaving 19 tranche 3 projects remaining to be completed. Fifty-six of the 60 Cohort 6 tranche 1 microgrant projects were verified as completed during the quarter and 22 tranche 2 projects were awarded.

Community Drama/Public Forum – Cohorts 5 and 6. The first community drama and public forum activities were conducted in the remaining 9 Cohort 6 communities, while second community drama activities were conducted in the remaining 38 Cohort 5 communities. In each case, drama performances were scripted, rehearsed, and performed by community members and were intended to highlight and generate discussion around issues that had been identified on their SPIPs.

IEC – Radio and Newsletter. Thirty-seven live radio programs were conducted during the quarter, with some repeating on alternate weeks: Techiman/Brong Ahafo (6), Kumasi/Ashanti (4), Ho/Volta (6), Winneba/Central (8), and Oda/Eastern (13). The Ashanti program was moved from OTEC radio to Garden City station in Kumasi during the quarter to provide more coverage for active cohorts. Volume 5, Issue 2 of the newsletter, ‘Voice from the Community’ was produced and will be distributed in July.

Community Match. The cumulative ‘community match’ collected for CSA partnership school communities through 30 June 2003 was \$2,323,791; an average of \$4,979 per each of 18 Cohort 1 PSCs, \$8,349 per each of 27 Cohort 2 PSCs, \$9,560 per each of 54 Cohort 3 PSCs, \$5,046 per each of 126 Cohort 4 PSCs, \$2,790 per each of 62 Cohort 5 PSCs, \$1,347 per each of 60 Cohort 6 PSCs, and \$602,944 for the

SMC/PTA Expansion. Detailed tracking sheets are included under separate cover. With the \$252,714 that has been collected in institutional match, CSA now has a match total of \$2,576,506, exceeding the total obligation of \$2,536,654. Therefore, the tracking and reporting of match figures will be discontinued following this quarter.

Field Time and Project Staff. Average field time for senior staff for the quarter was 52 percent, which included the project director, deputy director for finance and operations, and two associate directors for field activities. Field vehicle usage time was 95 percent.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE QUARTER

Contract:	Total Estimated Amount	\$ 11,111,886
Expenditures:	Actual Cumulative Expenditures through 31 May 2003	8,014,760
	Estimated Expenditures for June 2003	202,640
	Estimated Cumulative Expenditures through 30 June 2003	8,217,400
Remaining Unexpended Balance:		\$2,894,486

CUMULATIVE TRACKING SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIVITIES COMPLETED - FY 98/99/00/01/02/03

Sub Activity 1: Community Awareness, Responsibility and Advocacy Increased

Activity	Cumulative 30 September 2002 (FY 98/99/00/01/02)						1 Oct. 02 – 30 June 2003 (FY 2003)		
	Cohort 1 (18 PSCs)	Cohort 2 (27 PSCs)	Cohort 3 (54 PSCs)	Cohort 4 (126 PSCs)	Cohort 5 (62 PSCs)	Cohort 6 (60 PSCs)	Cohort 4 (126 PSCs)	Cohort 5 (62 PSCs)	Cohort 6 (60 PSCs)
Baseline	18	27	54	78	21	4			16
PLA	18	27	54	126	62	18			42
IEC Comm. Drama (public forum)	18	27	54/54	126/126	62			62	60
IEC Re-mobilization (video drama/forum or story picture-card/forum)	18/6/18	27	54	126				62	
IEC Calendars (pocket/wall)	10,000/ 400	25,000/ 600	20,000/ 1,000	25,000					
IEC Radio Programs (6 sites)	371 programs & 6 launches						102 programs & 5 launches		

Sub Activity 2: School Support Organizations Strengthened

Activity	Cumulative 30 September 2002 (FY 98/99/00/01/02)						1 Oct. 02 – 30 June 2003 (FY 2003)		
	Cohort 1 (18 PSCs)	Cohort 2 (27 PSCs)	Cohort 3 (54 PSCs)	Cohort 4 (126 PSCs)	Cohort 5 (62 PSCs)	Cohort 6 (60 PSCs)	Cohort 4 (126 PSCs)	Cohort 5 (62 PSCs)	Cohort 6 (60 PSCs)
SPIP Development	18	27	54	126	62	18			42
SMC/PTA Training	5, 3, 2 & 2 days	5, 3 2 & 2 days	5, 3 & 2 days	5, 3 & 2 days	5 days			4 days	5 days
Microgrant	Tr. 1 (18) Tr. 2 (18) Tr. 3 (16)	Tr. 1 (27) Tr. 2 (27) Tr. 3 (25)	Tr. 1 (54) Tr. 2 (54) Tr. 3 (54)	Tr. 1 (126) Tr. 2 (126) Tr. 3 (121)	Tr. 1 (62) Tr. 2 (62)			Tr. 3 (61)	Tr. 1 (60) Tr. 2 (22)
IEC Newsletter	Vol.1 #1-3 Vol.2 #1 -3	Vol.1 #1-3 Vol.2 #1 -4	Vol.2 #1 – 4 Vol.3 #1-3	Vol.2 #4 Vol.3 #1-4 Vol.4 #1-3	Vol. 3 #4 Vol. 4 #1-3	Vol.4 #3	Vol.4 #4	Vol.4 #4 Vol.5 #1 Vol.5 #2	Vol.4 #4 Vol.5 #1 Vol.5#2

(Note: SPIPs, SMC/PTA training & microgrants support both Sub Activity 2 & 3.)

SMC/PTA Expansion Program

Cumulative 30 September
2002 (FY 02)

1 Oct. 02 – 30 June 2003 (FY 2003)

	Cohort 4 (18 districts)	Cohort 5 (18 districts)	Cohort 2 (9 districts)	Cohort 3 (18 districts)	Cohort 4 (18 districts)	Cohort 5 (18 districts)
5-day TOT	18	4	2	5		14
4-day Cluster Training	1,643 schools	12 schools	108 schools	270 schools	298 schools	1,710 schools
Manuals Distributed	6,696	63	448	1,143	1,202	7,005

Sub Activity 3: Communities Participating in Design, Implementation & Monitoring

Activity

Cumulative 30 September 2002 (FY 98/99/00/01/02)

1 Oct. 02 – 30 June 2003 (FY 2003)

	Cohort 1 (18 PSCs)	Cohort 2 (27 PSCs)	Cohort 3 (54 PSCs)	Cohort 4 (126 PSCs)	Cohort 5 (62 PSCs)	Cohort 6 (60 PSCs)	Cohort 4 (126 PSCs)	Cohort 5 (62 PSCs)	Cohort 6 (60 PSCs)
SMC/PTA Self-Appraisal (3 times in 2 years)	18 (first) 18(second) 18 (third)	27 (first) 27 (second) 27 (third)	54 (first) 54 (second) 54 (third)	126 (first) 126 (second) 126 (third)	62 (first)			62 (second)	60 (first)
SPIPs Review & Update	18/9/18	27/18/5/27	54/54	126			126	62	
Remobilization/ Refresher & Phase-out	18/18	27/27	54				126		
Assessment/Impact	18	27	54				42		

Sub Activity 4 – District Education Officers Utilizing Monitoring and Evaluation to Improve Education Management

	Cumulative 30 September 2002 (FY 02)					1 Oct. 02 – 30 June 2003 (FY 2003)					
	Cohort 1 (6 districts)	Cohort 2 (9 districts)	Cohort 3 (24 districts)	Cohort 4 (26 districts)	Cohort 5 (23 districts)	Cohort 1 (6 districts)	Cohort 2 (9 districts)	Cohort 3 (24 districts)	Cohort 4 (26 districts)	Cohort 5 (23 districts)	Cohort 6 (22 districts)
District Assessment	6	9	6	26	23			18			
Cluster Training (5 days)	6 (first)	9 (first)	6 (first)	26 (first)	23 (first)			18 (first) 6 (second)	26(second)	23(second)	
Technical Training (5 days)				26 (first)		6 (first)	9 (first)	6 (first) 6 (second)	26(second)	23 (first) 23(second)	
On-Site Training (2 days)				26 (first) 26(second)		6 (first) 6 (second) 4 (third)	9 (first) 9 (second) 9 (third)	24 (first) 6 (second) 6 (third) 6(fourth)	26 (third) 26 (fourth) 26 (fifth) 18 (sixth)	23 (first) 23(second) 23 (third) 23 (fourth)	
Computer Disbursement				22		4	7	10	24	20	

PLANS FOR NEXT QUARTER

Plans for July through September 2003 include completing the remobilization in Cohort 5, SMC/PTA training in Cohort 6, district grant training in Cohort 6, M&E program activities in Cohorts 1&2, 3 (north and south), 4 (north and south), 5 (north and south), and 6 (north and south), SMC/PTA expansion TOTs and cluster workshops in Cohorts 2, 3, and 5, impact data collection in Cohort 5, R4 data collection in Cohorts 2, 3, 4, and 6, continued microgrant awards and tracking in Cohorts 5 and 6, and continuation of the radio program in all active sites.

PROJECT OFFICE TRAVEL SCHEDULE – JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2003

** Community Based Activities **

COHORT TWO R4 DATA COLLECTION

Abora Asebu

3-4 July Moree
10-11 July Korado

Mfantsiman

30 June – 1 July Edumadze

COHORT THREE R4 DATA COLLECTION

Akuepem North

1-3 July New Asuoyaa

BAK

6-7 July Esereso

Berekum

1-3 July Senasi

Wassa West

6-7 July Bogoso

COHORT FOUR R4 DATA COLLECTION

Asuogyaman

6-7 July Tosen Nanyor

Jasikan

30 June -1 July Atonkor

Jaman

2-3 July Asare
2-3 July Tainano

Kadjebi

3-4 July Pampawie
6-7 July Dapaa Amanta
9-10 July Asato

COHORT FIVE REMOBILISATION

Agona

2-4 July Nsaba
5-7 July Swedru
8-10 July Nyarkrom

Offinso

17-19 July Anyankaso
20-22 July Asuoso
23-25 July Asamankama

Sekyere West

1-3 July St. Monica's

Gomoa

2-4 July Eshiem
5-7 July Fetteh
8-10 July Pinakoh

Sefwi Wiawso

30 June - 2 July Pinakrom
3-5 July Ahokwaa
6-8 July Sefwi Nkonyaa
9-11 July Nkwadum
12-14 July Bopa

Techiman

1-3 July Asueyi
4-6 July Noriya
7-9 July Akrofuom

North Tongu

12-14 July Aflukakpoe
15-17 July Adidome
18-20 July Kutime
21-23 July Aveyime
24-26 July Kpedzeglo

Sekyere East

6-8 July Awaham
9-11 July Bodomase
12-14 July Effiduasi

Wenchi

12-14 July Badu
15-17 July Subinso
18-20 July Tromeso

COHORT FIVE IMPACT DATA COLLECTION

Agona

5-7 July Swedru
8-10 July Nyarkrom

North Tongu

12-14 July Aflukakpoe

Offinso

17-19 July Anyankaso

Sefwi Wiawso

9-11 July Nkwadum

Sekyere East

9-11 July Bodomase

Sekyere West

1-3 July St. Monica's

Wenchi

12-14 July Badu

COHORT SIX SMC/PTA TRAINING

22-25 September Kintampo, Amasie East, Upper Denkyira, Aowin Suaman, Ajumako, Keta, and Afram Plains
29 Sep. – 2 Oct. Jomoro, Ahafo Ano South, Atebubu, Asante Akyem North, Ketu, Fanteakwa, Kwahu South
6-9 October Sene, Asante Akyem South, Amansie West

** District Based Activities **

COHORT ONE SMC/PTA EXPANSION TOT

11-15 August Birim South

COHORT TWO SMC/PTA EXPANSION TOT

11-15 August East Akim
18-22 August Ahafo Ano North and Asutifi

COHORT THREE SMC/PTA EXPANSION TOT

7-11 July Cape Coast
14-18 July Shama Ahanta East Metro, New Juaben, and Akwapim North
4-8 August Adansi West and Dangbe East
11-15 August Wassa West and Kumasi Metro
18-22 August Ho

COHORT SIX DISTRICT GRANT TRAINING

30 Jun. – 4 Jul. Afram Plains, Fanteakwa, and Kwahu South
8-11 July Asante Akim South, Asante Akim North, and Amansie West
15-18 July Amansie East, Ahafo Ano South, and Ajumako Enyan Esiam
22-25 July Ketu, Keta, and Upper Denkyira
29 Jul. – 1 Aug. Jomoro and Aowin Suaman
4-7 August Atebubu, Sene, Kintampo

COHORT SIX TRANCHE 1 REVIEW

12-14 August Atebubu, Sene, Kintampo, Afram Plains, Fanteakwa, and Kwahu South
19-21 August Asante Akim South, Asante Akim North, and Amansie West
26-28 August Amansie East, Ahafo Ano South, Ajumako Enyan Esiam, and Upper Denkyira
2-4 September Ketu, Keta, Jomoro and Aowin Suaman

**** M&E Capacity Building Program ****

COHORT ONE/COHORT TWO ON-SITE 3

30-2 July Atwima and East Akim
3-4 July Adansi East, West Akim and Abora Asebu
24-25 July Ahafo Ano North
31-1 August Ahanta West

COHORT ONE/COHORT TWO CLUSTER 2

4-9 August Atwima, West Akim, Accra Metro, Asunafo, Dangme West, Asutifi, Ahanta West and Mfantseman
11-16 August Birim South, Adansi East, Ahafo Ano North, East Akim, Abora Asebu, Bibiani and Assin

COHORT ONE/COHORT TWO TECHNICAL 2

25-29 August All Cohort One/Cohort Two Districts

COHORT ONE/COHORT TWO ON-SITE 4

5-6 August	East Akim	5-6 September	East Akim
7-8 August	West Akim	8-9 September	Assin
19-20 August	Birim South	11-12 September	Adansi East and Abora Asebu
2-3 September	Ahafo Ano, Accra Metro and Bibiani	15-16 September	Mfantseman
4-5 September	Asunafo, Dangme West and Asutifi	18-19 September	Ahanta West

COHORT THREE SOUTH TECHNICAL 1

30 June – 4 July All Cohort 3 South Districts

COHORT THREE SOUTH ON-SITE 2

31-1 August	Suhum, Berekum and Dangme East	14-15 August	New Juaben and Kumasi
4-5 August	Akatsi	18-19 August	BAK and Kpando
7-8 August	South Tongu	21-22 August	Adansi West and Ho
11-12 August	Sunyani	26-27 August	Wassa West and KEEA
12-13 August	Akuapim North	28-29 August	SAEMA and Cape Coast

COHORT THREE NORTH ON-SITE 5

15-16 September	Bawku East	22-23 September	West Gongga
16-17 September	Nadowli	25-26 September	Gushiegu Karaga
18-19 September	Bolgatanga and Jirapa		

COHORT FOUR CLUSTER 3

7-11 July Kwabre, Afigya Sekyere and Ga
21-25 July Mporhor Wassa, East Gonja, and Bongo

COHORT FOUR M&E FORUM

28 July Kwabre, Jaman, Tano, Twifo, Asuogyaman, East Mamprusi, Bongo, Kassena Nankana

COHORT FOUR NORTH ON-SITE 6

15-16 September East Gongga and Bongo
18-19 September Nanumba and Kassena Nankana
22-23 September Zabzugu Tatale
25-26 September Saboba Chireponi

COHORT FIVE SOUTH ON-SITE 5

7-8 July	Ejura and Gomoa	7-8 August	Tema
10-11 July	Offinso and Awutu	12-13 August	Juaboso Bia and Birim North
21-22 July	Sekyere East and Agona	14-15 August	Sefwi Wiawso and Akuapim North
24-25 July	Sekyere West and Asikuma	20-21 August	Kwaebibirem
5-6 August	North Tongu and Wenchi	4-5 September	Nkoranza
6-7 August	Techiman		

COHORT FIVE NORTH ON-SITE 5

8-9 September	West Mamprusi and Bole
11-12 September	Builsa and Lawra
15-16 September	Savelugu

COHORT SIX SOUTH DISTRICT VISIT

19-20 August	Asante Akim North	1-2 September	Kintampo, Kwahu South, Ahafo Ano South and Jomoro
21-22 August	Asante Akim South		
25-26 August	Afram Plains and Ketu	4-5 September	Upper Denkyira and Aowin Suaman
26-27 August	Atebubu and Amansie West	9-10 September	Ajumako
28-29 August	Sene, Fanteakwa, Amansie East and Keta		

COHORT SIX SOUTH CLUSTER 1

8-13 September	Atebubu, Sene, Kintampo, Afram Plains, Fanteakwa and Kwahu South
22-27 September	Asante Akim South, Asante Akim North, Amansie West, Amansie East and Upper Denkyira

COHORT SIX NORTH DISTRICT VISIT

21-22 July	Tolon	28-29 July	Tamale, Bawku West
24-25 July	Wa	31-1 August	East Dagomba

COHORT SIX NORTH CLUSTER 1

18-23 August	Tamale, Tolon, East Dagomba, Bawku West and Wa
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COHORT SIX NORTH ON-SITE 1

15-16 September	Tamale and Bawku West
18-19 September	East Dagomba and Wa
22-23 September	Tolon

**** IEC Activities ****

Radio

3, 17 & 31 July	Ashanti, Kumasi	14 & 28 August	Ashanti, Kumasi
1, 15 & 29 July	Techiman, Brong Ahafo	12 & 26 August	Techiman, Brong Ahafo
6, 13, 20, & 27 July	Central, Winneba	3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 August	Central, Winneba
6, 13, 20, & 27 July	Eastern, Oda	3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 August	Eastern, Oda
4 & 18 July	Volta, Ho	1, 15, & 29 August	Volta, Ho
11&25 September	Ashanti, Kumasi		
9 & 23 September	Techiman, Brong Ahafo		
7, 14, 21 & 28 September	Central, Winneba		
7, 14, 21 & 28 September	Eastern, Oda		
12 & 26 September	Volta, Ho		